

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application.

Claims 5-15 have been allowed.

Claims 1-4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Rinaldi. It is respectfully submitted, however, that these claims are patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Applicants' invention, as recited by claim 1, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely;

. . . a subdetector for generating a comparison result by comparing a predetermined reference value with results generated from said video signal and said video signal with delays; and

a detector for detecting in which of said plurality of correlation level ranges said video signal is situated, ones of said ranges shifted responsive to said comparison result generated by said subdetector.

This feature is supported by the originally filed application at claim 5, paragraph (h). Claim 5, paragraph (h) discloses the generation of a correlation signal from differentials between first and second signals and between second and third signals. The second signal and the third signal are delayed forms of the first signal. Thus, the video signal (i.e., the first signal) and the video signal with delays (i.e., the second signal and the third signal) are used to generate results (i.e., differentials between various signals). Thus, Applicants have amended claim 1 to include features from allowable claim 5. The use of a video signal and a delayed form of the video signal is neither disclosed nor suggested by Rinaldi for the purpose of adjusting thresholds. Thus, claim 1 is patentable over Rinaldi.

Claim 2 is also patentable over Rinaldi for reasons similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1.

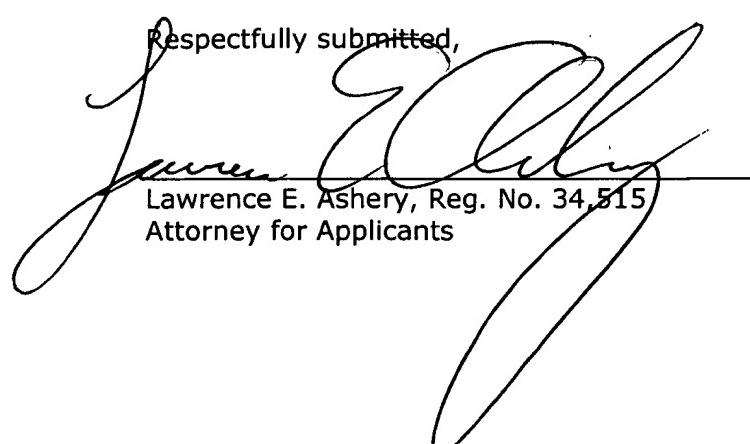
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Claims 3 and 4 include the features of claims 1 and 2 from which they respectively depend. Thus, claims 3 and 4 are patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable claims 1 and 2.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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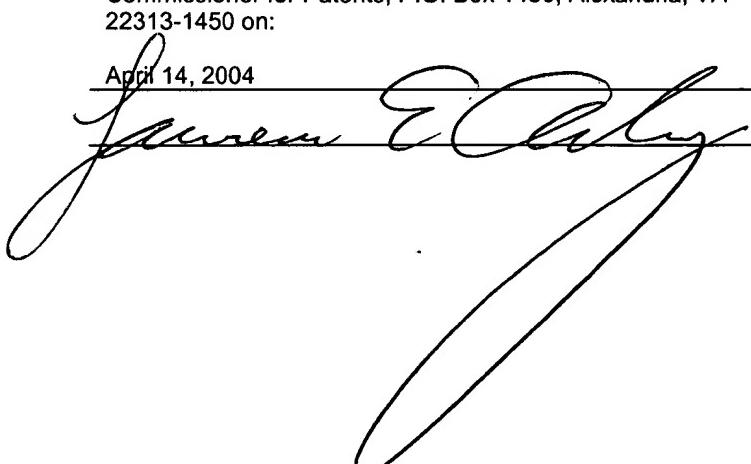
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Dated: April 14, 2004

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